

**Parent/Guardian Notification of
Benefits of the Recommended High School Program for Graduation**

Date:

Dear Parents/Guardians of _____ :

The 81st Texas Legislature, 2009, passed House Bill (HB) 3, amending the Texas Education Code (TEC), §28.025, to require school districts to provide written notice to parents/guardians explaining the benefits of the Recommended High School Program (RHSP) for graduation before a student is permitted to take courses under the Minimum High School Program (MHSP). The purpose of this correspondence is to ensure that parents/guardians are informed about the programs and opportunities afforded to students graduating under the RHSP.

Benefits of graduating under the Recommended High School Program include:

- **College readiness.** Many colleges and universities minimally require the RHSP for admission. In addition, students ranked in the top 10 percent of their graduating class from an accredited Texas public high school are eligible for automatic admission to most Texas public universities if they have completed the RHSP or the Distinguished Achievement Program (DAP).
- **Recognition.** The Recommended High School Program seal will be affixed to the Academic Achievement Record (AAR), or transcript, of students graduating under the RHSP.
- **Test results.** Research suggests that students who take additional English, math, social studies, and science courses make higher scores on the SAT® or ACT® college entrance exams. The RHSP requires four credits in each of these core courses.
- **Program participation.** The Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program provides tuition and fee assistance to students completing grades 9–12 early or with a significant number of college hours. The Texas Scholars program allows students who participate and graduate to be eligible for Graduation Honors and to compete for certain scholarships. Texas Scholars who qualify for financial assistance become eligible for a grant program passed by the Texas Legislature: the Texas Grant program. This *may* provide all tuition and fees for public colleges and universities in Texas; however, grant funds are administered on a first-come-first-served basis. Both the Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program and Texas Scholars program require students to graduate under the RHSP or the DAP.

Please confirm your receipt of this notice by entering your signature in the appropriate space on the attached form and return the form to the school in which your child is enrolled.